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NOTES ON CLAVARIOID FUNGI. IV. NOMENCLATURE AND SYNONYMY OF CLAVULINOPSIS PULCHRA AND CLAVARIA LAETICOLOR[1]

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The genus *Clavulinopsis* vanOvereem, as understood by Corner (**1950**) and me, includes several species which are world-wide in distribution and which are represented by many herbarium specimens. One of these is *C. pulchra* (Pk.) Corner (*Clavaria pulchra* Peck).

In the original description of *C. pulchra,* Peck (**1876**) stated that the species was associated with *Clavaria fusiformis* Sow. ex Fr., but differed from it in shape and habit of the fruiting bodies. Because of their use of *Clavaria* in the broadest possible sense, Coker (**1923**) and Burt (**1922**) retained the original genus name. In spite of Donk's (**1933**) reference to vanOvereem's name, *Clavulinopsis,* he (Donk) still accepted the original genus designation.

The type of *Clavaria pulchra* at NYS consists of fruiting bodies collected in two different locations, Northville and Chittenango Falls, New York, and represents two different species. The material from Northville may be briefly described as follows:

Macroscopic: Fruiting bodies fascicled, up to 4.5 cm high, tapering to narrow base. Hymenial portion dull ochraceous orange, basal portion ochraceous yellow. Microscopic: Contextual hyphae parallel, not inflated, thin-walled, possessing clamp connections, with rare branching and anastomoses. Subhymenial hyphae tortuous, profusely branched. Basidia elongate-clavate with prominent basal clamp connections, 4-sterigmate. Spores broadly elliptical to subglobose, with distinct but not pronounced apiculus.

The material from Chittenango Falls may be described as follows:

Macroscopic: Fruiting bodies solitary (in a single case two fruiting bodies have their bases in juxtaposition), simple, up to 3 cm high, clavate, from 2–2.5 mm thick at the base to 3–4 mm thick near the rounded-acute apex. Color now dull dark ochraceous orange near the

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apex, lighter below and light ochraceous or whitish at the base. Fruiting bodies arising from a whitish or yellowish mycelial pad. Sterile basal portion not different from hymenial portion in color, but only in texture. Microscopic: Contextual hyphae thin-walled, septate, with large asymmetrical clamp connections, with abundant branching and anastomoses, of two different types: (1) broad, slightly inflated hyphae, almost strictly parallel, up to 12 μ in diam, and (2) narrow, uninflated interweaving hyphae 2–5 μ in diam, tortuous, highly pigmented, highly branched, usually from the clamp connections, producing basidia in "bouquets." Basidia elongate-clavate, 35–60 × 4–7 μ, bearing a large basal clamp connection, 4-sterigmate, the sterigmata 6–9 μ long, stout and slightly incurved. Spores broadly ovoid to broadly ellipsoid to broadly subtriangular, smooth, white in mass, slightly thick-walled, 4.8–7.4 × 3.7–5.7 μ, with a very prominent, stout, eccentric apiculus up to 1.5 μ in length.

Because the two groups of specimens included in the type differ significantly, it is necessary to choose a lectotype from them. Accordingly the collection from Chittenango Falls is selected because it corresponds most nearly with Peck's original description. The Northville material cannot be considered a syntype. Its characteristics are much more similar to those of *Clavulinopsis fusiformis* (Sow. ex Fr.) (= *Clavaria platyclada* Pk.) than to those of *C. pulchra,* and so I have tentatively placed it under that species.

I have also examined type material of *Clavaria laeticolor* Berkeley & Curtis (**1868**) from UNC, K, and F, and have designated the material at K as lectotype. The specimens at UNC and F are syntypes. All of these collections are small fruiting bodies of the species discussed above. Since *laeticolor* is the prior valid epithet, I propose the name **Clavulinopsis laeticolor** (Berkeley & Curtis) Petersen, comb. nov. [basionym; *Clavaria laeticolor* Berk. & Curt. J. Linn. Soc. London **10**: 338. 1868; synonym: *Clavulinopsis pulchra* (Pk.) Corner].

Because of their collectors or locations, the following misidentified specimens should be carefully noted. Berkeley's specimen at K labelled *C. inaequalis* Müller ex Fr. and McCabe's specimens under the same name at NY are both *C. laeticolor.* Green's specimens of *Clavulinopsis luteo-alba* (Rea) Corner at K and Karsten's specimen under *C. inaequalis* (coll. 1860) at H are all *C. laeticolor.* Scrupulous care should be taken when examining members of this group, for their are nearly indistinguishable from macroscopic characteristics. Only microscopic examination provides a satisfactory basis for identification.

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